

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to have the status and content indicated in the following listing of claims, wherein any cancellation of claims is made *without prejudice*.

1. (currently amended) An item of jewelry ~~(1) consisting of~~ comprising a central stone ~~(2) the central stone comprising a pavilion (10), a crown having a plurality of crown facets and a table and having the shape of a regular polygon, the polygon having a plurality of sides when observed from the table of the central stone, and several~~ a corresponding plurality of peripheral stones (3), arranged around the central stone with the length of an edge of one of the sides of each of the peripheral stones being identical to the length of one of the sides of the regular polygon, each peripheral stone having at least one peripheral stone facet, characterized in that said stones wherein the central stone and the peripheral stones are arranged on a support (4) comprising a first ring (5) concentric with and connected to a second ring (6) smaller in diameter and greater in height than the first ring (5), said second ring (6) coming to having a top edge and a T-shaped shoulder (8) on its said top edge with one side designed of the T-shaped shoulder being configured to be snapped into a longitudinal groove (9) passing all the way extending entirely around the circumference of the pavilion (10) of the central stone (2) and its with the other side of the T-shaped shoulder being snapped into a groove (11) present in each peripheral stone (3), each peripheral stone also being held firmly in its located in position by a slot (12) formed on the inside of the perimeter of the second ring (6) wherein at least one facet (13) of each peripheral stone (3) has an angle of incidence to the table of the central stone equal to the angle of incidence of an adjacent crown facet to the central stone to simulate the appearance of the crown of a stone larger than the central stone.
2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)
4. (currently amended) The item of jewelry ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the central stone ~~(2)~~ is an octagonal stone ~~with~~ and the plurality of peripheral stones comprises eight trapezoidal stones~~arranged around it.~~
5. (cancelled)
6. (cancelled)
7. (cancelled)
8. (cancelled)
9. (cancelled)
10. (cancelled)
11. (cancelled)
12. (cancelled)
13. (cancelled)
14. (cancelled)
15. (cancelled)
16. (cancelled)
17. (new) The item of jewelry claimed in claim 1, wherein each crown facet and a facet of a corresponding adjacent peripheral stone, considered together, simulate one of the bezel facets of a brilliant-cut stone.
18. (new) The item of jewelry claimed in claim 1, wherein the first ring and the second ring are both circular.

19. (new) The item of jewelry claimed in claim 1, wherein the first ring and the second ring have bases and the first and the second ring are connected at their bases by a number of converging arms arranged at regular intervals around the rings.